

In the Claims:

1) (currently amended) An external computer device with a standard interface comprising;  
a housing;  
a ~~standardized~~ universal serial bus connector for connecting to a computer; and  
a spring-loaded cover integral with said housing, wherein said cover has a  
protective position and an engaged position, such that when said cover is in said protective position,  
said connector is covered by said cover, and when said cover is in said engaged position said connector  
is exposed from said cover.

2) (cancelled)

3) (twice amended) An external computer device with a standard interface comprising;  
a housing;  
a ~~standardized~~ universal serial bus connector for connecting to a computer; and  
a cover integral with the housing, wherein the cover has a  
protective position and an engaged position, such that when the cover is in the protective position, the  
connector is covered by the cover, and when the cover is in the engaged position the connector is  
exposed from the cover, wherein the cover automatically extends upon removal of the external  
computer device from the computer.

4) (original) The external computer device of claim 1, wherein said external computer device is a mass  
storage memory device.

5) (twice amended) The external computer device of claim 1, further comprising a front barrier  
protector, wherein said front barrier protector is integral with said housing.

6) (previously amended) The external computer device of claim 1, wherein said external computer device is selected from the list consisting of at least one of the following:

- a) a wireless adapter;
- b) a barcode scanner;
- c) a RF transceiver;
- d) an identification interface;
- e) an electronic voice recorder;
- f) a music jukebox; and
- g) a flash RAM drive.

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7) (currently amended) An external computer device with a standard interface comprising: a) a housing; b) memory contained within said housing; c) a ~~standardized~~ universal serial bus connector for connecting to a computer; d) a retractable cover including a front barrier protector, integral with said housing, wherein said cover has a protective position and an engaged position, such that when said cover is in said protective position, said connector is covered by said cover, and when said cover is in said engaged position said connector is exposed from said cover.

8) (cancelled)

9) (previously amended) The external computer device of claim 3, wherein the cover automatically retracts upon the connection of the external computer device to the computer.

10) (original) The external computer device of claim 7, wherein said memory is a mass storage device.

11) (original) The external computer device of claim 7, wherein said memory is a flash RAM.

12) (original) The external computer device of claim 7, wherein said external computer device is selected from the list consisting of at least one of the following:

- a) a wireless adapter;
- b) a barcode scanner;
- c) a RF transceiver;
- d) an identification interface;
- e) an electronic voice recorder;
- f) a music jukebox; and
- g) a geo-location system.

13) (currently amended) An external computer device with a standard interface comprising;

a housing;

a ~~standardized~~ universal serial bus connector for connecting to a computer; and

an inner sleeve body integral with said housing, wherein said inner sleeve has a protective position and an engaged position, such that when said inner sleeve is in said protective position, said connector is covered by said inner sleeve, and when said cover is in said engaged position said connector is exposed from said inner sleeve.

14) (cancelled)

15) (twice amended) The external computer device of claim 13, further comprising a front barrier protector, wherein said front barrier protector is integral with said housing.

16) (original) The external computer device of claim 13, wherein said external computer device is a mass storage memory device.

17) (original) The external computer device of claim 13, wherein said external computer device is a flash ram drive.

18) (original) The external computer device of claim 13, wherein said external computer device is selected from the list consisting of at least one of the following:

- h) a wireless adapter;
- i) a barcode scanner;
- j) a RF transceiver;
- k) an identification interface;
- l) an electronic voice recorder;
- m) a music jukebox; and
- n) a geo-location system.

19) (currently amended) An external computer-device with a standard interface comprising:

a housing; and

a ~~standardized~~ universal serial bus connector for connecting to a computer, wherein said connector is disposed on a slideable carriage, such that it is retractable within said housing.

20) (cancelled)

21) (twice amended) The external computer device of claim 19, further comprising a front barrier protector, wherein said front barrier protector is integral with said housing.

22) (currently amended) The external computer device of claim 19, wherein said external computer device is a mass storage memory device fixed within said housing.

23) (original) The external computer device of claim 19, wherein said external computer device is a flash ram drive.

24) (original) The external computer device of claim 19, wherein said external computer device is selected from the list consisting of at least one of the following:

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- a) a wireless adapter;
  - b) a barcode scanner;
  - c) a RF transceiver;
  - d) an identification interface;
  - e) an electronic voice recorder;
  - f) a music jukebox; and
  - g) a geo-location system.

25) (currently amended) An external computer device comprising a ~~standardized~~ universal serial bus connector in communication with said external device for connecting to a computer, wherein said standardized connector is in a long-throw configuration.

26) (cancelled)

27) (cancelled)

28) (original) The external computer device of claim 25, wherein said external computer device is a mass storage memory device.